

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1-3 and 6-10 as follows:

A 2

Sub
C1

1. (Amended) Flaky α -alumina particles having an average major diameter of 0.5 to 25 μm , an aspect ratio, expressed by particle major diameter / average thickness, of greater than 50 to 2000, and produced using a source material that will introduce phosphate ions.

2. (Amended) The flaky α -alumina particles according to claim 1, wherein a phosphoric compound is present in an amount of 0.2% to 5.0% by weight relative to the weight of the alumina particles, and the weight of said compound used in the calculation is the weight of P_2O_5 .

3. (Amended) The flaky α -alumina particles according to claim 1, wherein an isoelectric point of the alumina particles at which zeta-potential is 0 is at a pH of 4 to 8.

A 3

Sub
C1
Cont

6. (Amended) A cosmetic containing flaky α -alumina particles having an average major diameter of 0.5 to 25 μm and an aspect ratio, expressed by particle major diameter / average thickness, of greater than 50 to 2000.

7. (Amended) The cosmetic according to claim 6, in which the flaky α -alumina particles have an average thickness of 0.01 to 0.1 μm and an average particle diameter, in terms of half the sum of the particle diameter in major axis and particle diameter in minor axis, of 0.5 to 15 μm .

8. (Amended) The cosmetic according to claim 6, wherein the flaky α -alumina particles are present in an amount of 1% to 90% by weight, based on the weight of the cosmetic.

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

A3
Cont

9. (Amended) A cosmetic containing flaky α -alumina particles having an average thickness of 0.01 to 0.1 μm and an average particle diameter, in terms of half the sum of particle diameter in major axis and particle diameter in minor axis, of 0.5 to 15 μm .

Sub C1
Cont

10. (Amended) The cosmetic according to claim 9, wherein the flaky α -alumina particles are present in an amount of 1% to 90% by weight, based on the weight of the cosmetic.

Please add new claims 11 and 12 as follows:

A4

Sub C1
Cont

11. (New) The cosmetic according to claim 6, wherein a phosphoric compound is present in the alumina particles in an amount of 0.2% to 5.0% by weight relative to the weight of the alumina particles, and the weight of said compound used in the calculation is the weight of P_2O_5 .

12. (New) The cosmetic according to claim 6, wherein an isoelectric point of the alumina particles at which zeta-potential is 0 is at a pH of 4 to 8.

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the above amendments and the following discussion, is respectfully requested. Claims 1-3 and 6-10 are pending in this application. Claims 11-12 have been added. Support for these claims can be found, at least, in paragraphs 0034, 0035, and 0041 of the specification.

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com